



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

**Southeast District Office**

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Ted Strickland, Governor  
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor  
Chris Korleski, Director

December 7, 2010

**Re:** Gallia County  
Village of Crown City  
Unsanitary Conditions  
Correspondence (PWW)

Mayor and Council  
Village of Crown City  
P.O. Box 316  
Crown City, Ohio 45623

Dear Mayor and Council:

On August 3 and 30, 2010, I inspected the Village of Crown City with Joann Montgomery of our Division of Surface Water, Water Quality Section. The purpose of the inspection was to conduct water sampling of various locations within the village, to assess the conditions. Photographs were taken.

Our results were as follows:

**Ohio EPA Lab Data:**

**Location:** Crown City, Gallia County  
**Dates Sampled:** August 3, 2010; August 30, 2010

Date	Time	Parameter	Units	Value
<b>Ditch at SR 553 and Wilbur Road (Crown City)</b>				
8/3	1135	E. coli	#/100 ml	850
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	770
8/30	1102	E. coli	#/100 ml	530
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	310
Water was clear in the ditch. Some brown algae were noted.				
<b>Ditch on Shoal Creek Road ~1/4 mile from SR 7 (north side)-Crown City</b>				
8/3	1015	E. coli	#/100 ml	60
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	30
8/30	1000	E. coli	#/100 ml	<10
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	10
Water is clear, and small fish were prevalent. An accumulation of green algae was noted below black corrugated pipe discharge, indicating at least nutrient-laden discharge.				

Date	Time	Parameter	Units	Value
<b>Ditch on Shoal Creek Road ~1/4 mile from SR 7 (south side)-Crown City</b>				
8/3	1020	E. coli	#/100 ml	500
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	1200
8/30	1005	E. coli	#/100 ml	130
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	180
Low flow was noted at this site. Water appears to be pooling. Lots of tadpoles were noted here.				
<b>Gallia Street Bridge, SW end of village-Crown City</b>				
8/3	1040	E. coli	#/100 ml	90
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	160
8/30	1015	E. coli	#/100 ml	150
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	210
Low flow was noted at the time of sampling. Water was pooling on east side of bridge. During wet weather events, flow would include west side of SR 7 and discharge from area near Dairy Boy store. Due to dry conditions, flows were drying up before reaching this bridge; however, wet weather conditions may result in much higher bacteria numbers.				
<b>Dairy Street, approximately 300' NE of Dairy Boy store-Crown City</b>				
8/3	1130	E. coli	#/100 ml	80,000
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	60,000
8/30	1052	E. coli	#/100 ml	80,000
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	60,000
Water was black and very odorous. White fungus was noted at this location. Black sediment was accumulating on the bottom of the drainage swale.				
<b>Drain pipe 200' SW of Dairy Boy store-Crown City</b>				
8/3	0955	E. coli	#/100 ml	80,000
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	180,000
8/30	1030	E. coli	#/100 ml	80,000
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	60,000
Consistent flow was noted during both sampling events. Water was discharging from a pipe to the drainage swale which would ultimately end up at the bridge at Gallia Street site. The sample was collected from the pipe as it discharged.				
<b>Drainage ditch at Gallia Street behind park-Crown City</b>				
8/3	1050	E. coli	#/100 ml	100,000
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	130,000
8/30	1030	E. coli	#/100 ml	80,000
		Fecal coliform	#/100 ml	60,000
Water was dark gray to black in color. Very strong odors were noted. Sample was collected on east side of street where two flows come together before going under culvert.				

Most of the sample locations above showed strong evidence of sewage contamination. As a comparison, the Ohio Water Quality Standard for E. Coli is as follows:

**From OAC 3745-1-07:**

Table 7-13. Statewide numerical criteria for the protection of recreation uses. These criteria apply inside and outside the mixing zone at all times during the recreation season.

Recreation use	E. coli (colony counts per 100 ml)	
	Seasonal geometric mean	Single sample maximum <sup>1</sup>
Bathing water	126	235 <sup>a</sup>
Class A primary contact recreation	126	298
Class B primary contact recreation	161	523
Class C primary contact recreation	206	940
Secondary contact recreation	1030	1030

<sup>1</sup> Except as noted in footnote a, these criteria shall not be exceeded in more than ten percent of the samples taken during any thirty-day period.

<sup>a</sup> This criterion shall be used for the issuance of beach and bathing water advisories.

The sampling results and visual evidence clearly indicate unsanitary conditions. Additionally, the conditions at the last two locations represent a public health nuisance under Ohio Administrative Code 3745-1-04(F).

We encourage Crown City to move forward with plans for a village wastewater collection and treatment system to eliminate the unsanitary conditions. We encourage you to pursue all available funding options. Our Division of Environmental & Financial Assistance in our Central Office (614-644-2798) may be of assistance to you. We may perform additional sampling. We intend to move forward with an enforcement action, requiring the village to eliminate the unsanitary conditions and the illegal discharges to waters of the state.

Please respond to this letter by December 31, 2010. If you have any questions, please contact me at (740) 380-5218.

Sincerely,



Dan Messerly  
District Representative  
Division of Surface Water

DM/dh

- c: Kerry Hogan, URS
- c: Stephen Henson, Project Manager, URS
- c: Gallia County Health Department